## Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management 105 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

In the Matter of Civil Citation No.71768

Edward Fistek, Jr. 904 Monica Road Kingsville, MD 21087

8464 Kavanagh Road

Respondent

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW FINAL ORDER OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before the Baltimore County Code Enforcement Hearing Officer on January 6, 2010, for a Hearing on a citation for violations of the Baltimore County Code (BCC) section 13-4-201, failure to keep premises free from accumulations of improperly stored solid waste, failure to store garbage in approved rodent resistant watertight containers with tight fitting lids; section 13-7-310, failure to cease the accumulation of garbage, trash, manure to become a food source for rats creating a harborage on residential property known as 8464 Kavanagh Road, 21222.

On December 3, 2009, pursuant to § 3-6-205, Baltimore County Code, Inspector Ray Harmon issued a Code Enforcement citation. The citation was sent to the Respondent by 1<sup>st</sup> class mail to the last known address listed in the Maryland State Tax Assessment files.

The citation proposed a civil penalty of \$100.00 (one hundred dollars).

The Respondent failed to request a Code Enforcement Hearing and/or failed to appear after requesting a Hearing. Baltimore County Code, § 3-6-205(d) provides that in case of failure to request a Code Enforcement Hearing or if the violator (Respondent) fails to appear after requesting a Hearing then the citation and the civil penalty, shall be the Final Order of the Code Official not subject to appeal.

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After proper consideration of all the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer finds:

A. This Citation was issued without prior Correction Notice pursuant to the Department's

adopted criteria, for activity that contributes to the propagation of rodents including the improper

storage, placement and removal of garbage and rubbish. BCC Section 3-6-205.

B. This is an investment property. Photographs in the file show cans overflowing with

bagged garbage, and bags of garbage on the ground. This violates prohibitions against the

accumulation of junk, trash and debris on residential property, and prohibitions against creation of

possible harborage for rats. Review of the file shows that \$25.00 civil penalties were imposed on

Respondents in 2007 and 2008 for the same code violation.

C. Re-inspection on January 5, 2010 by Inspector Harmon found the violation has not been

corrected. The Citation will be enforced; and if the violation is not corrected, Respondents will be

subject to Citation with additional civil penalties for continued code violations.

IT IS ORDERED by the Code Enforcement Hearing Officer that a civil penalty be imposed in the

amount of \$100.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if not paid within thirty days of billing, the civil penalty as

authorized above shall be imposed and placed as a lien upon the property.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County inspect the property to determine whether the

violations have been corrected.

ORDERED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

Signed: ORIGINAL SIGNED Margaret Z. Ferguson

Baltimore County Hearing Officer

MZF/jaf